

ORIGINAL

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

John S. Halikowski  
Interim Director

**Arizona Department of Transportation**  
**Intermodal Transportation Division**

206 South Seventeenth Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85007-3213

Floyd Roehrich Jr.  
State Engineer

May 19, 2009

Mr. David Raber  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
Director, Safety Division  
2200 North Central Avenue  
Suite 300  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

RE: Union Pacific Railroad Application Docket # RR-03639A-07-0517

Dear Mr. Raber:

As you know, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is the road authority for the SR 347 crossing included in Application Docket # RR-03639A-07-0517 filed by the Union Pacific Railroad (UP). ADOT, the City of Maricopa, and UP are working together to plan the eventual grade separation at the SR 347 crossing. However, planning for that grade separation is complicated by a number of factors. There are currently five options for construction of the grade separation at SR 347. The next step in the study process, which is not expected to begin until 2011, is to develop a Design Concept report, which will determine the best option. ADOT does not anticipate being able to begin the process to construct the grade separation at SR 347 for at least five years. In the meantime the approaches to the crossing need immediate improvement. ADOT recently added a traffic signal just north of the UP crossing to help alleviate traffic congestion. However, ADOT does not have the proposed at grade improvement in ADOT's maintenance schedule but UPRR is proposing to improve the approaches as part of their modification to the crossing. The proposed improvement will address the general public's complaints about the rough approaches. ADOT supports UP's application to construct a second main track and related improvements to the grade crossing at SR 347 and would therefore be in favor of the Commission approval of UP's Application # RR-03639A-07-0517.

Sincerely

Greg H. Gentsch  
Tucson District Engineer  
Arizona Department of Transportation

Arizona Corporation Commission  
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